

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### **Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended)      A method for permanently obturating holes, especially in metal sheets or plastic parts of automobile bodies, by  
  
fixing an at least partly single-sidedly self-adhesively treated diecut having a backing, in particular a textile backing, whose area is greater than the area of the hole to be obturated and which is provided, in particular centrally, on the adhesively treated side with a non-foamingly expanded foam body, said fixing being carried out on the hole in such a way that the hole is completely covered by the diecut and the foam body is located within the hole,  
  
heating the diecut with the foam body in such a way that the foam body foamingly expands,  
  
the supply of heat being continued until the foamingly expanded foam body completely fills and/or covers the hole,  
  
~~the foamingly expanded foam body cooling and hardening the foamingly expanded foam body.~~  
  
2. (Currently Amended)      The method of claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the diecut is provided with adhesive over its full area beneath the foam body.

3. (Currently Amended)      The method of claim 1 ~~or 2, characterized in that, wherein~~ the unfoamed foam body is composed of polyurethane or, ~~in particular,~~ EVA foam and/or has a thickness of 1.5 to 4 mm.
4. (Currently Amended)      The method of ~~at least one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the diecut has an adhesive coating of natural rubber and/or a PVC coating or acrylic coating on the side opposite from the adhesive.
5. (Currently Amended)      The method of ~~at least one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein backing material used for the diecut comprises woven cotton fabric having ~~in particular~~ a weft count of 70 to 80 and/or a warp count of 70 to 80.
6. (Currently Amended)      The method of ~~at least one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the foaming expansion of the diecut by supply of heat takes place during the ~~conventional coating operation on the body shell, in particular during the drying of the body shell~~ after coating or after cathodic electrodeposition.